
UPDATE



SCDHEC Environmental Laboratory Certification Bldg. 9, P. O. Box 72, State Park, SC 29147
Phone: (803)896-0970, FAX: (803)896-0850 March 2000

Water Pollution Study 2000 Schedule Set A Tentative Schedule for the DMR-QA Study)

Water Pollution Study 2000 Schedule

The first Water Pollution Study will be initiated upon receipt of this newsletter and will apply only to laboratories certified for waste water parameters under the Clean Water Act. This Proficiency Testing (PT) study tests your laboratory's ability to accurately analyze samples and report results. Successful analyses are required to maintain certification (Reg. 61-81). Note that PT samples analyzed before October 25, 1999 or from providers not approved by NVLAP (National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program) cannot be accepted. Samples obtained from providers which were approved after October 25, 1999 will not be accepted unless obtained from the pertinent providers after their approval date. If your laboratory is certified for any of the parameters listed on page 2, it must order and successfully analyze a PT sample for each of those parameters. Please remember that a PT sample must be analyzed using each method which the laboratory is certified. See page two for further explanation.

July 10, 2000

Laboratories participating in the study must order samples from the providers listed on page 3 before this date. Laboratories are encouraged to order their samples as soon as possible, and providers should ship samples to laboratories as quickly as possible after receiving the order.

August 24, 2000

Participating laboratories must have received samples, analyzed them, and reported results to the providers by this date. **Do not** submit your results to our Office, but keep a copy for your files.

September 13, 2000

Providers will have the reports submitted to our Office, the participating laboratories, and all other designated recipients by this date. Each laboratory will be responsible for reviewing its report for samples which were unacceptable. Laboratories must analyze an additional PT sample in the follow-up study starting next quarter (October 2000) for each parameter/method for which it received an unacceptable result in the initial study.

Water Pollution Study - Follow-up Study Schedule

October 10, 2000

Participating laboratories must place an order for repeat samples by this date.

November 23, 2000

Participating laboratories must have received repeat samples, analyzed them, and reported results to the providers by this date.

December 14, 2000

Providers will have the reports for repeat samples submitted to our Office by this date. Our Office will process these and take the appropriate actions regarding a laboratory's certification status. The laboratory will be decertified for any parameter or method for which sample results are unacceptable in both the initial and make-up studies. Laboratories will be notified by **December 31, 2000.**

Instruct providers to mail sample reports to: **Charmaine Flemming, SCDHEC Environmental Laboratory Certification, P. O. Box 72, State Park, SC 29147.**

| |
|---|
| <u>Parameters Requiring PT Samples: Water Pollution and DMR-QA Studies</u> |
|---|

Laboratories must analyze one PT sample for **each method** that they are certified to perform, provided a PT sample is available. For example, if a laboratory is certified for the ion chromatography method (EPA 300.0) and the manual electrode method (SM18 4500 F-C) for fluoride determinations, the laboratory must analyze a PT sample using each method and report both results with their corresponding method references.

This change places much of the responsibility for the studies on the participating laboratories. They must be able to identify the parameters which require the analysis of PT samples, find the provider that can provide the samples they need within the time specified by the schedule, order and pay for the samples, and analyze and report them in a timely fashion.

Compare your certified parameter list to the list below and use the list as a check sheet to indicate the parameters for which you need PT samples. Remember that Organic parameters are not required for the DMRQA Study. Note that if the laboratory is certified to analyze for a particular parameter/analyte using more than one method, results must be reported for each method. The affected parameters are:

Trace Metals

Aluminum
Antimony
Arsenic
Barium
Beryllium
Cadmium
Chromium
Cobalt
Copper
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Mercury
Molybdenum
Nickel
Selenium
Silver
Strontium
Thallium
Titanium
Vanadium
Zinc

WET Testing

C. dubia -

Acute/Chronic

M. bahia -

Acute/Chronic

Inorganics - Minerals

Alkalinity
Calcium
Chloride
Conductance, Specific
Fluoride
Total Hardness
Magnesium
Potassium
Sodium
Sulfate
Total Dissolved Solids

Demands

Total Org. Carbon (TOC)
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)
5-Day BOD

Carbonaceous BOD

Nutrients

Ammonia
Nitrate-Nitrogen
Orthophosphate
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen
Total Phosphorus

Miscellaneous

Total Cyanide
Total Residual Chlorine
pH (Hydrogen-Ion Conc.)
Total Phenolics
Non-Filterable Residue (TDS)
Oil and Grease

Organics -

PCBs in Water

Aroclor 1016 or 1242
Aroclor 1232
Aroclor 1248
Aroclor 1254
Aroclor 1260

PCBs in Oil

PCB in Oil 1016/1242
PCB in Oil 1254
PCB in Oil 1260

Pesticides

Aldrin
Chlordane (total)
Dieldrin
DDD (4,4)
DDE (4,4)
DDT (4,4)
Heptachlor
Heptachlor Epoxide (beta)

Volatile Halocarbons

1,2-dichloroethane
Chloroform
1,1,1-Trichloroethane
Trichloroethene
Carbon Tetrachloride
Tetrachloroethene
Bromodichloromethane
Dibromochloromethane

Bromoform
Methylene Chloride
Chlorobenzene

Volatile Aromatics

Benzene
Ethylbenzene
Toluene
1,2-Dichlorobenzene
1,3-Dichlorobenzene
1,4-Dichlorobenzene

New Providers of Proficiency Testing Samples Added!!

The list of approved providers of proficiency testing (PT) samples at the time of publication is below. Notice the addition of **Microcheck, Inc.** and **NSI Solutions, Inc.** to this list. Not every provider has samples for each parameter available. Every provider contacted by this Office had a slightly different schedule for having samples available, so laboratories will have to shop around for a provider which can meet our schedule. The approved provider list, along with the samples they provide, can change. For the most recent status of providers, visit the NVLAP website at:

<http://ts.nist.gov/ts/htdocs/210/214/scopes/calchem.htm>.

q Absolute Standards, Inc.

Mr. Stephen Arpie
P.O. Box 5585
Hamden, CT 06518-0585
Phone: (203) 281-2917
Fax: (203) 281-2922
E-mail: absolutest@aol.com

AccuStandard, Inc.

Mr. William McCain
125 Market Street
New Haven, CT 06513-3031
Phone: (203) 786-5290 ext. 102
Fax: (203) 786-5287
E-mail: bm@accustandard.com

Analytical Products Group, Inc.

Mr. Thomas V. Coyner
2730 Washington Boulevard
Belpre, OH 45714
Phone: (740) 423-4200
Fax: (740) 423-5588
E-mail: APG@citynet.net

Chrisope Technologies, A Division of Remel

Ms. Jody D. Moss
3941 Ryan Street
Lake Charles, LA 70605
Phone: (318) 479-1000 ext 236
Fax: (318) 479-1006
E-mail: jdmoss@remelinc.com

Environmental Resource Associates (ERA)

Mr. Charles Wibby
5540 Marshall Street
Arvada, CO 80002
Phone: (303) 431-8454
Fax: (303) 421-0159
E-mail: eracxw@aol.com

Microcheck, Inc.

Dr. Michael G. Sinclair
9 School Circle

Northfield Falls, VT 05664

Phone: (803)485-6600, ext. 22

Fax: (802)485-6100

E-mail: micro@microcheck.com

NSI Solutions, Inc. - NC Office

Mark Hammersla
2 Triangle Drive
RTP, NC 27709
Phone: (800) 234-7837 or (919) 549-8980
Fax: (919) 544-0334
E-mail: mark.hammersla@mantech.com

q q NYS DOH Env. Laboratory Approval Program

Dr. Kenneth W. Jackson
Empire State Plaza, P.O. Box 509
Albany, NY 12201-0509
Phone: (518) 485-5570
Fax: (518) 485-5568
E-mail: jackson@wadsworth.orgProtocol

Protocol Analytical Supplies, Inc.

Mr. William H. Hahn, Jr.
472 Lincoln Blvd.
Middlesex, NJ 08846
Phone: (732) 627-0500
Fax: (732) 627-0979
E-mail: bhahn@prostds.com

Spex Certiprep, Inc.

Dr. Vanaja Sivakumar
203 Norcross Ave.
Metuchen, NJ 08840
Phone: (732) 549-7144 ext. 418
Fax: (732) 494-1747
E-mail: vsivakumar@spexcsp.com

Ultra Scientific, Inc.

Mr. Edward F. Martz
250 Smith Street
North Kingston, RI 02852-7723
Phone: (401) 294-9400

Please Note the Following:

q Absolute Standards is also accredited by NIST to supply TOC samples but it was inadvertently left off its parameter list on the web.

q New York is not a public PT provider. PT samples are available to those laboratories wanting NY NELAC accreditation.

Notice to Certified Laboratories Located Outside South Carolina

Environmental laboratories certified by the State of South Carolina located outside of South Carolina must participate in PT studies also. If you are participating in a study mandated by your certifying authority after October 25, 1999, you may submit those results to our Office. If your certifying authority has not initiated a study, you must participate in this one. The PT providers you use should send reports for your laboratory directly to our Office. Note that out-of-state laboratories must also analyze one PT sample for each certified method to meet the requirements of our Office, even if your state certifying authority does not require this. If you have complications meeting our schedule, please contact our Office.

DMR-QA Study 20 Tentative Dates@

Major and selected minor dischargers are required to participate in the DMR-QA study. The tentative DMR-QA schedule was established by the USEPA and sent to this Office for comment.

| Tentative Dates | |
|---------------------|--|
| June 5 | Requests for test samples must be received by the appropriate providers no later than this date. Contact individual providers for study ordering deadlines. |
| July 14 | Initial Toxicity sample shipment date. |
| August 29 | Commercial laboratories must have results to permittee on the DMR-QA Study 20 Data Report Form(s) received with the sample kit(s). Contact individual providers for deadlines. |
| September 15 | Permittee must submit results from in-house and/or commercial laboratory as a complete package for evaluation to the provider who produced the samples which were analyzed. |
| December 18 | Results for both WET testing and Chemistry portions will be reported to the DMR-QA coordinator by the appropriate provider and the USEPA. |
| February 5 | Permittees submit corrective actions for ANot Acceptable@results to State Coordinator |

Please note that the final accepted dates will be found in the *DMR-QA Study 20 Announcement To Designated NPDES Permittees* which will be mailed to all DMR-QA participants directly from the USEPA Office of Compliance by May 2000. Those dates, if different, will nullify the above dates. Please contact Charmaine A. Flemming if you have questions or concerns.

Problems With PT Samples

Our Office has received a few calls regarding problems with PT samples. We anticipated some problems and have discussed the issues with representatives from NIST, the entity responsible for approving providers. If you encounter any problems with PT samples, please call Doug Faison,

NVLAP/NIST, at (301)975-5304 (email faisond@NIST.gov) or Reenie Parris, ACS/NIST, at (301)975-3103 (email reenie.parris@NIST.gov).

NVLAP/NIST approved providers for PT samples used in the Water Pollution (WP), Water Supply (WS) and Discharge Monitoring Report Quality assurance (DMR-QA) Studies only. The type and selection of PT samples approved for each provider varies. When ordering PT samples, make sure that your provider is NVLAP approved for the samples you need. NVLAP does not approve providers for known QC samples, quick turnaround/response samples, or any other type of samples.

PT Study Issues

We have learned a lot during the first study, and we want to share what we've learned with you.

q Laboratories must have an EPA laboratory code (five digits preceded by ASC@) in order to report sample results. Laboratories that have participated in studies in the past should have codes. These can be found at the top of the old WS, WP, or DMR-QA reports. If you do not know your EPA laboratory code, please contact this office. New laboratories must be assigned an EPA laboratory code by the EPA before they can participate in PT studies. Our Office will obtain an EPA laboratory code and send it to you. If your laboratory is new and we have not assigned it an EPA laboratory code, please contact our Office. *Please note that the EPA laboratory code is not the same as the five digit laboratory identification number assigned to each certified by this Office or NPDES permit number, if applicable. If you report using your SC identification number or NPDES permit number your data will not be scored.*

q In the November 1999 *Update*, it was stated that laboratories must analyze one PT sample for each method for which it was certified. This includes microbiological parameters for the WS Study only. The WS study PT microbiological sample consists of ten portions. All ten portions must be analyzed by one method. If a laboratory is certified for two total coliform methods under the SDWA (e.g. Colilert presence/absence and membrane filtration using m-Endo), it must order two total coliform PT samples. The membrane filtration procedure can be used to enumerate and to determine presence/absence; therefore, a PT sample must be analyzed by this method also. It is not acceptable to obtain one PT sample set and use five sample portions for each method or to divide each sample portion and use one set for two methods.

q On the reporting forms, do not indicate that a copy of the final report should be mailed to the EPA. Only your laboratory, our Office, and any other certifying authority requesting a copy (commercial laboratories only) should be indicated. Upon completion of the study, the providers will submit a report electronically to the EPA.

q It has been decided that only samples prepared according to EPA protocol and are NIST certified will be accepted to meet the annual PT requirement for this Office. Additionally, initial certification samples must also be prepared according the same protocol which means that quick turn-around samples will no longer be accepted by this Office. Therefore, all results submitted for initial or continued certification must be part of a WS, WP, or DMR-QA study supplied by an approved PT provider.

Proficiency Testing (PT) Studies Explained

There are presently three types of PT (proficiency testing) studies required by EPA and this Office. They are the Water Pollution (WP) study, the Water Supply (WS) study, and the Discharge Monitoring Report - Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) study. Each study serves a specific purpose and require specific types of reporting. The following information explains the various studies:

q WP study for Lab Certification

- for all state certified laboratories with Clean Water Act parameters
- must be performed for each certified parameter performed by the laboratory
- must be performed annually

- make-up required for ANot Acceptable@results
- two consecutive ANot Acceptable@results for a parameter will result in decertification of that parameter.

q WS Study for Lab Certification

- for all state certified laboratories with Safe Drinking Water Act parameters
- must be performed for each certified parameter performed by the laboratory
- must be performed annually
- make-up required for ANot Acceptable@results
- two consecutive ANot Acceptable@results for a parameter will result in decertification of that parameter

q DMR-QA Study for Wastewater Self-Monitoring Compliance

- for NPDES permittees designated major dischargers (1 MGD daily) as well as significant minor permittees whose discharges are deemed necessary to monitor
- must be performed for each parameter monitored on the monthly DMR form
- permittee must report analysis results received from commercial laboratories as well as in-house laboratory analysis results
- must be performed annually
- a written corrective actions letter must be sent to this Office to explain the reasons for ANot Acceptable@results for both in-house laboratory and the commercial laboratory they contracted analyses to
- two consecutive ANon Responses@to this study will result in monetary fines levied by EPA enforcement

EPA Performance Evaluation (PE) Results Available on the Web

For laboratories that are interested in obtaining true values for past EPA Water Pollution (WP), Water Supply (WS) and Discharge Monitoring Report Quality Assurance (DMRQA) performance evaluation studies the following website is available: www.epa.gov/ord/dbases/PES. At this site, true values and other information for the previous EPA administered studies can be downloaded at your convenience. This site does not include results from private Proficiency Testing (PT) providers. For those results PT providers can be contacted directly at the appropriate phone numbers listed on pages 3-4.

Lab Certification Fees Update

As everyone should now be aware, this Office has initiated the process to increase the fees associated with the Laboratory Certification Program. This action makes the first fee increase since the promulgation of Regulation

61-30 in 1992 and should average approximately 30% per laboratory. In accordance with the Agency practice, the Program first sought relief through a direct appropriation from the State Legislature. When the appropriation request was rejected, the only remaining recourse to correct the existing financial disparity was to pursue raising the annual fees. We acknowledge that the proposed fee increase will negatively impact the regulated community. However, the Program has gone to great lengths to minimize that impact in its proposal. We appreciate your continued interest in this matter and encourage your comments. We will keep you abreast of current developments through the *Update*.

Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Management Analytical Methodology for Groundwater and Soil Assessment Guidelines

A revision of the AAnalytical Methodology for Groundwater and Soil Assessment Guidelines@has been completed. As of March 15, 2000, analysis conducted for TPH waste oil (Oil & Grease) in water and soil will be performed using the recently approved n-hexane extraction methods. These methods include EPA Methods 9070A and 9071B. Laboratories must be certified for these methods to conduct the analyses for waste oil required for the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Management. A copy of this guidance

document will be mailed to all certified laboratories in March.

Certification requirements were addressed in the last *Update*. If you need a copy of this *Update* or further information concerning certification for these analyses, please contact our Office and request certification information for the n-hexane oil & grease methods.

Eliminating The Residual Chlorine Annual Calibration Curve

Laboratories can now eliminate the need to draw a calibration curve or perform linear regression and format a table of meter versus true values. In order to do this, the factory calibration of the meter must be verified the same way as before, but the meter reading for standards that are 0.1 ppm or greater must be within 10% of the standard concentration. This means that on the annual calibration curve, five standards must be checked with each standard (with a concentration equal to or greater than 0.1 ppm) being within 10%. Because many of the meters used do not display three decimal places, the 0.05 ppm standard can be between 0.4 and 0.6 ppm and be acceptable. For the daily calibration verification, a blank and two standards will be checked as before. As always, they still must be within 10% to verify that the meter is providing acceptable results. If a meter cannot meet the 10% requirement, it should be sent back to the manufacturer for repair.

Commercially Prepared Potassium Permanganate (KMnO₄) Stock Standard Solution

Our Office have noticed that many laboratories are using commercially prepared potassium permanganate stock solutions. The use of a commercially prepared potassium permanganate stock standard solution is permitted as long as the following apply:

1. The solution has a prepared concentration of 0.891 g KmnO₄/Liter.
2. The solution is purchased in an amber glass bottle.

Unopened containers of commercially prepared potassium permanganate stock standard solution are good up to the manufacturer's assigned expiration date. Once opened, commercially prepared potassium permanganate stock standard solution has a six month shelf-life. The six month shelf-life will take precedence over any extended expiration date that the manufacturer may have assigned. This Office recommends that upon receiving the commercially prepared potassium permanganate stock standard solution, the container be labeled with the date received, date opened, and a new expiration date six months after the date opened should be assigned.

Microbiological Update: Quality Control Reminders

It is required that a positive sample be analyzed at least weekly for each total coliform and fecal coliform method for which you are certified. The weekly positive requirement is met if any sample analyzed during the week using a specific method is found to produce typical colonies or a positive result.

If no typical colonies or positive results are produced from samples analyzed during the week, the laboratory must analyze a known positive sample. This Known positive may be an environmental sample (wastewater or source water) or a pure culture that will produce typical colonies or a positive result. This requirement is not new, but it is being restated as a reminder to laboratories that do not routinely analyze positive samples as a part of their weekly sample load.

Each lot of commercially prepared medium and each batch of laboratory prepared medium must be checked for sterility and with positive and negative culture controls. Laboratories are reminded that the sterility check is required for all media, including media stored in tubes such as LTB, BGGB and EC. The sterility check of tube medium can be performed by incubating an uninoculated tube of each type of medium and checking for gas or acid production. The results of the sterility, positive and negative control checks must be documented for each type of medium utilized in the laboratory. If you have any questions please contact Amy Bennett.

Temperature Corrections Must Be Applied to Documentation

After thermometers or temperature dependent instruments (DO meter) have been checked against a NIST

or NIST-traceable thermometer, the correction value must be applied when recording the temperature value. If a meter's correction value is +0.2 then this value must be added to the temperature reading and recorded on the bench sheet. Respectively, if the corrected value is -0.1 then this value must be subtracted from the reading. It often helps if the corrected value is documented in the headings of bench sheet columns especially, in cases where the temperatures of an incubator, oven, or refrigerator is recorded twice daily. If you have any questions please contact any certification officer for assistance.

SCELAC Wants You L

Due to circumstances beyond their control two representatives, Alex Saunders and Mike Lindley, are unable to serve their tenures as SCELAC representatives in their laboratory categories. Therefore, nominations are being taken for individuals in the Field Parameter and Federal Laboratory categories. If you or someone you know would be an ideal candidate please contact any of the representatives listed below in order to obtain a nomination form. Send all nominations to the chairman, George Greene.

Commercial Laboratories

George C. Greene, III, Chair
General Engineering Laboratories
Phone: (843) 556-8171
Fax: (843) 776-1178
Email: gcg@gel.com

Cheryl Sommers, Chair-Elect
Commonwealth Laboratories of SC, Inc.
Phone: (864)271-3256
Fax: (864)235-8340
Email: CLSCI@mindspring.com

Industrial Laboratories

Frances Miller
Bayer Corp.
Phone: (843) 820-6310
Fax: (843) 820-6313
Email: Francis.Miller.B.@Bayer.com

Paul Fitzgerald
Duke Power
Phone: (704)875-5208
Fax: (704)875-5038
Email: pjfitzge@duke-energy.com

Field/Small Laboratories

Mark P. Ferrell
Hilton Head #1 PSD
Phone: (843)681-0529 or 5925
Fax: (843) 681-6590
Email: n/a

Vacant

Municipal Laboratories

Michael (Mike) Bailes
Catawba River WTP
Phone: (803)286-5949
Fax: (803)286-5950
Email: CRWTP@virtual1.net

Randall L. Barnard
Hilton Head #1 PSD
Phone: (843)681-5894
Fax: (843)681-6590
Email: n/a

Federal/Other State Laboratories

Cal Hartzog
Denmark, SC 29042
Phone: (803)725-9744
Fax: (803)725-7065
Email: chartzog@mindspring.com

Vacant

Laboratory Certification

T. John Williams
Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification
Certification
Phone: (803) 935-6860
Fax: (803) 935-6859
Email:Williatj@Columb36.dhec.state.sc.us

Charmaine A. Flemming, Secretary
Office of Environmental Laboratory
Phone: (803) 935-6867
Fax: (803) 935-6859
Email:Flemmica@Columb36.dhec.state.sc.us

State SCDHEC Environmental Laboratory

Mike Moore
SCDHEC Lower Savannah District
Phone: (803)641-7670
Fax: (803)641-7675
Email: moorems@aiken30.dhec.state.sc.us

Alfred Baquiran
SCDHEC EQC Laboratory
Phone: (803) 896-0974
Fax: (803) 896-0980
Email: baquiraj@columb36.dhec.state.sc.us

SCELAC Meeting Minutes

The first meeting of the South Carolina Environmental Laboratory Advisory Council (SCELAC) took place on January 17, 2000 at 11:15 am at the Quality Training Center in Columbia. The following representatives were in attendance: George Greene,III, Paul Fitzgerald, Cheryl Sommers, Mark Ferrell, Lee Barnard, Frances Miller, Alfred Baquiran, Paul Fitzgerald, Cal Hartzog, T. John Williams, and Charmaine Flemming.

Administrative Issues included:

- 1) SCCLAC-s purpose was defined as a vehicle to improve the laboratory communities communication with DHEC and data quality.
- 2) SCCLAC may be able to influence policies in Lab Certification and other branches of DHEC by writing formal letters of recommendation addressing particular issues as they arise.
- 3) Election of Officers resulted in the following: George C. Greene, III - Chairman, Cheryl Sommers - Chair Elect, and Charmaine Flemming - Secretary.
- 4) New representatives are needed for field and federal laboratory categories. All current representatives will have nomination forms. Send nominations to Chair, George Greene, for selection at next meeting.
- 5) SCCLAC will meet quarterly on every third Friday. Meetings are scheduled for April 28, July 21, and October 20 at the Quality Training Center in Columbia.

Issues Discussed Included:

- 1) Permitting Issues such as regulatory limits were discussed and it was decided that a separate meeting will be organized to discuss permitting issues. Send issues to George Greene by **April 1, 2000**. Invitations will be sent to DHEC representatives in affected program areas to attend and provide input.
- 2) Proficiency Testing (PT) Issues are annually mandated by EPA under Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Acts. Lab Certification Regulation 61.81 mandates PTs annually for all certified laboratories.
- 3) PT Updates: The WP and DMRQA studies are scheduled to run July through December 2000 pending EPA announcement of DMRQA study. Labs are encouraged to contact Lab Cert (Charmaine Flemming) about any issues with providers. Do not order samples the until schedule is announced in the Lab Certification *Update*. Additionally, Lab Cert requests patience from the regulated community during this transitional year with PTs and the next Lab Certification *Update* will address PT issues.
- 4) Communications: SCCLAC will use the Lab Certification *Update* to inform the laboratory community of meetings, solicit issues, and state resolutions. Each representative will have a list of laboratories in their category for further communication. SCCLAC encourages the use of the DHEC

website to obtain information: www.state.sc.us/dhec/. Other organizations= newsletters will be used to inform and solicit input from the regulated community.

5) Data Quality: A stronger Agency initiative is underway to verify data being reported. Wayne Davis is hopeful that future efforts will see more review of data quality as well as results submitted to the various program areas

6) Fee Changes: Wayne Davis and Daphne Neel distributed documentation of the declining lab certification budget due to many laboratories closing which resulted in the loss of two Lab Cert positions. Laboratory Certification fees may increase up to 36% in many cases. The DHEC fee bill will be in the February State Register. Comments must be sent to the Chair and Chair Elect.

New Phone System/Voice Mail F

If you have tried calling us recently, you may have encountered some problems. We have installed a new phone system! Our apologies for any inconveniences this may have caused. We still have a few minor problems, but these should be eliminated soon. Our new phone numbers are listed in the box below.

Our new phone system will have voice mail capabilities. Our jobs take us out of the office frequently, and voice mail will enable you to leave a detailed message so that we will be better prepared to assist you when we return your call. If you call and the person with whom you wish to speak is not available, the phone will automatically go to a receptionist. You have the option of giving a message to the receptionist or leaving a message directly in the voice mail. If you encounter any problems contacting us, please let us know.

SCELAC CORNER Q

This section will be used to inform and address resolutions of issues discussed at SCELAC meetings. We appreciate your comments and concerns and will do our best to address them as swiftly and efficiently as possible. Please contact your laboratory category representative to submit your comments.

Question: Can Lab Certification make available a list of guidance documents that can be accessible to the laboratory community. Is there a new version of the *Guidance Document for Field Parameter Analyses*?

Answer: At present the Office has quite a few guidance documents, bench sheets, policy, and memoranda that can be requested by the laboratory community. This list includes, but is not limited to the following documents:

1. Regulation 61-81 - State Environmental Laboratory Certification Regulations - April 1980
2. Application for Environmental Laboratory Certification - June 1999
3. Reference Materials List - November 1998
4. Guidance Document for Field Parameter Analyses - October 1995
5. Calibration of Continuous Monitoring Devices Memo - September 1999
6. Colorimetric/Spectrophotometric Procedures - August 1996
7. Titrimetric Procedures - August 1996
8. State of South Carolina Certification Requirements for Organic Analyses - February 1998
9. Petroleum Hydrocarbon Analytical Methodology for Groundwater and Soil Assessment - March 2000
10. Certification Requirements for the MMO-MUG Coliform Analysis - September 1999
11. Trace Metals Parameters Guidance Document - September 1999
12. Total Coliform Verification and Fecal Coliform Confirmation - August 1998
13. Certification Requirements for Parameters Associated with the Surface Water Treatment Rule
14. Ion Chromatography Methods - July 1999
15. S. C. Environmental Laboratory Certification Criteria: Biological Parameters - October 1996
16. The South Carolina Environmental Certification Program Guidelines for the Consideration of

- Reciprocal Agreements - September 1994
17. Chain-of-Custody - January 1997
18. State of South Carolina Certification Requirements for Enterolert™ Quanti-Tray Test Method
from IDEXX for Enterococci in Water - January 1999
19. UV Sanitation and Quality Control - January 1999
20. Membrane Filter Coliform Procedures
21. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
22. Quality Assurance Plan
23. Media Requirements for Microbiological Analysis - August 1998
24. South Carolina Certification Requirements for EPA Method 1664 - Revision A/9070A - February
1999
25. SCDHEC Environmental Laboratory Certification Update - 1995-1999
26. Laboratories Operating Under One Laboratory I.D. Number with Multiple Operators and/or
Facilities - May 1995
27. Laboratory Certification Requirements for Color Comparator Use to Determine Residual
Chlorine Concentrations of Drinking Water Samples - May 1999

To obtain a copy of any of the above documents, please call our Office at (803) 896-0970. Additionally, this list is available on the Internet at www.state.sc.us/dhec/eqc/ select *Regulatory Information*, then select *Guidance Documents, Policies, and Working Memoranda* and then select *Environmental Laboratories*. However, only the current Colilert (MMO-MUG) requirement can be downloaded using Acrobat Reader. Lastly, the *Guidance Document for Field Parameter Analyses* has not been updated, copies are available upon request.